

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented collaboration system ~~configured to integrate~~integrating legacy system components, said computer implemented collaboration system comprising:

a plurality of user terminals connected to a data network, wherein a plurality of participants access at least one conference within a context via said user terminals;

a data management tier including data sources, at least one of the data sources being a legacy data source;

a repository tier including repository servers, each said repository server being associated with one of said data sources, said repository servers ~~being enabled for~~ accessing data items within their respective associated said data sources using access methods native to their respective associated said data sources to create at least one document including data items selected from their respective associated said data sources, said at least one document being associable with the at least one conference accessible to a plurality of by at least one of the participants;

a user interface tier including at least one client tool enabled for displaying the data items within said data sources in client tool interfaces displayable on ~~at least one~~said user terminals ~~connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system;~~

a services tier including at least one data channel server associated with said at least one document, said at least one data channel server being created when said at least one document is associated with said at least one conference, said at least one data channel server including a data model and providing an interface between said repository servers and said at least one client tool, wherein said at least one client tool receives said data model from said at least one data channel server and registers with said at least one data channel server to be informed of events received by said at least one data channel server from said data model; and

at least one extended property associated with each data item within said data sources, a current version of said at least one extended property being maintained within said data model of said at least one data channel server and available for display by said at least one client tool only within said at least one conference with which said at least one document is associated, whereby the participants can collaboratively access and manipulate data items represented in said at least

one document associated with said at least one conference using said at least one client tool to solve a problem of said context.

2. (Original) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 1 wherein said at least one extended property comprises one of a visualization property and a control property for use in displaying the data items with said at least one client tool.

3. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 1 comprising a plurality of client tools ~~enabled for displaying the data items within said at least one data source.~~

4. (Original) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 3 wherein said plurality of client tools include a map viewer, a list viewer, and an X-Y data plotter.

5. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 1 further comprising:

a query viewing client tool ~~enabled for use in constructing~~useable to construct queries for selecting data from said at least one data source meeting particular criteria; and

a library server providing an interface between said query viewing client tool and said at least one repository server.

6. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 5 wherein said query viewing client tool is ~~enabled for use in constructing~~useable to construct at least one of a standing query and a static query.

7. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 1 further comprising:

a conference manager client tool ~~enabled for managing communication between multiple~~said user terminals ~~connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system.~~

8. (Original) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 1 wherein

said at least one extended property is maintained in said at least one data channel server in a directed a-cyclic graphical form.

9. (Original) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 1 wherein said at least one repository server, said at least one client tool, and said at least one data channel server are implemented within a CORBA framework.

10-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented collaboration system ~~configured to integrate~~integrating legacy system components, said computer implemented collaboration system comprising:

a user terminal connected to a data network, wherein a participant accesses at least one conference within a context via said user terminal;

~~at least one~~a first repository server associated with at least one non-legacy data source and enabled for accessing data items within said at least one non-legacy data source using access methods native to said at least one non-legacy data source;

~~at least one~~a second repository server associated with at least one legacy data source and enabled for accessing data items within said at least one legacy data source using access methods native to said at least one legacy data source;

at least one document server providing at least one interface for creating a plurality of documents, each document representing selected data items within at least one of said at least one non-legacy data source and said at least one legacy data source, each document being associable with the at least one conference by the participant;

~~at least one~~a plurality of client tools ~~enabled for displaying~~ the data items represented by each document in client tool interfaces displayable on ~~at least one~~said user terminal ~~connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system~~; and

at least one data channel server including a data model and providing an interface between said repository servers and said ~~at least one~~ client tools, said at least one data channel server being created upon association of a document with ~~at the~~ at least one conference ~~and further enabled for, wherein said client tools receive said data model from said at least one data channel~~

server and register with said at least one data channel server to be informed of events received by said at least one data channel server from said data model and wherein said at least one data channel server maintains-maintaining an instance of at least one extended property associated with each data item represented in a document within said data model, wherein the extended properties are available for display by said at least one client tools only within at the at least one conference with which a particular document is associated, whereby the participant can collaboratively access and manipulate data items represented in documents associated with said at least one conference using said client tools to solve a problem of said context.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 27 further comprising:

a query viewing client tool ~~enabled for use in constructing~~useable to construct queries for selecting data items from said data sources meeting particular criteria; and

a library server providing an interface between said query viewing client tool and said at least one repository server.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 28 wherein said query viewing client tool is ~~enabled for use in constructing~~useable to construct at least one of a standing query and a static query, wherein a document representing data items selected as a result of a standing query is updated when the selected data items change.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 27 further comprising:

at least one conference manager client tool ~~enabled for~~ managing communication between multiple user terminals connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system, each said document being placed within a conference managed by said at least one conference manager client tool.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 27 wherein said at least one extended property comprises one of a visualization property and a control property for use in displaying the data items with said at least one client tool.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 27 wherein said at least one client tool is selected from a group consisting of a map viewer, a list viewer, and an X-Y data plotter.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented collaboration system of claim 27 wherein said at least one extended property is maintained in said at least one data channel server in a directed a-cyclic graphical form.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 27 wherein said at least one repository server, said at least one document server, said at least one client tool, and said at least one data channel server are implemented within a CORBA framework.

35. (New) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 1 wherein the context and the problem relate to an intelligence gathering and analysis operation.

36. (New) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 35 wherein said at least one document represents at least one of logistics data, signal intelligence data, terrain data, map data, and image data.

37. (New) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 1 wherein said user terminals are geographically remote from one another.

38. (New) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 27 wherein the context and the problem relate to an intelligence gathering and analysis operation.

39. (New) The computer implemented collaboration system of Claim 38 wherein said documents represent at least one of logistics data, signal intelligence data, terrain data, map data, and image data.